**GSC Year 7Maths Talent Quest 2016**

Student Information

The Maths Talent Quest is an open-ended mathematical investigation with your choice of topic.

* You should aim to choose one of the four Investigations offered..
* Think about how you are going to gain information, collect data and analyse your results.
* You can work as an individual, a member of a group (maximum of two students)
* Your project must have a title and all references and assistance (including teachers and parents) must be acknowledged.
* You should aim to interest your audience. Remember primary and/or secondary teachers will be judging your investigation using the rubric.

**What Type Of Project Can I Choose?**

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| **PROJECTS CAN BE** | **ALL PROJECTS MUST INCLUDE** |
| An **Investigation**  **(All entries should be investigations)** | An abstract (a brief description of what you did and what you achieved); mathematical aims; observations and results; discussion on relevance of results; conclusion; references, bibliography and acknowledgements. |
| **Creative writing** (essay, story, collections of  poems or letters, script for a play) | Mathematical aims; a list of key mathematical ideas; an evaluation (how well did you achieve your aim?); references, bibliography and acknowledgements. |

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| A **poster** presenting information in a  sequence with a clear indication of the  mathematics involved | Notes outlining mathematical aims, rules, the process of the investigation and conclusions; references, bibliography and acknowledgements. **Poster dimensions must be no larger than a standard A1 sheet (approximately 60cm x 85cm) and must be able to be rolled into a Post Pack Cylinder.** |

**How Do I Get Started?**

Brainstorm. It is important that you choose a topic that interests you. You may like to investigate a problem that has affected you, your family, your school or on a global level. Topic to choose from:

* Investigating How far/how many steps I do in a year
* Investigating How many kilojoules do I eat in a year?
* The snail
* My Dream holiday

Once a topic has been chosen, you should think of a big question or idea to investigate.

**Get Planning:**   
  
What type of information or data will you require to complete your investigation? Make a list of all the types of data and information you will need. Create a timeline to ensure you will complete your investigation in time. Now is a great time to get a *critical friend*. A critical friend is someone who will give you feedback on your project, share ideas with you and ensure you stick to your goals. Your critical friend may be a teacher, parent or a fellow peer.

**Start Investigating:**   
  
Set yourself some goals and smaller questions. Once you have collected enough data and information you can begin your investigation. You may find that your investigative journey changes along the way - this is fine. Make sure your reset your goals & timeline as needed. Your focus may also change, which can sometimes make a more interesting investigation.

**Keeping Records:**

It is very import that you keep records of your investigation and data. This is a great way to show that the work has been completed by yourself and provides the MTQ judges with an insight into your investigation. You can present all of your working and planning in a journal, attached in a folder or your work can be put into in your investigation. Some students find it helpful to keep a journal, however this is not compulsory.

**Presenting Your Investigation:**

It is very important that you keep in mind the rubric judging criteria whilst presenting your information. Make sure your aim, plan and conclusion is clear. Present your mathematical strategies, real world connections and terminology effectively. Ensure you have acknowledged any assistance and resources you have used. Be sure to present your work in a neat and legible manner, demonstrating you value your work.

**How Are We Going To Judge Your Project?**  
Please make sure you consult the 2016 State Judging Rubric for information about the criteria.

You can find more information about the Maths Talent Quest at [www.mav.vic.edu.au/activities/student-activities/maths-talent-quest.html](http://www.mav.vic.edu.au/activities/student-activities/maths-talent-quest.html)